



tattersalls

newsletter **March 2002**

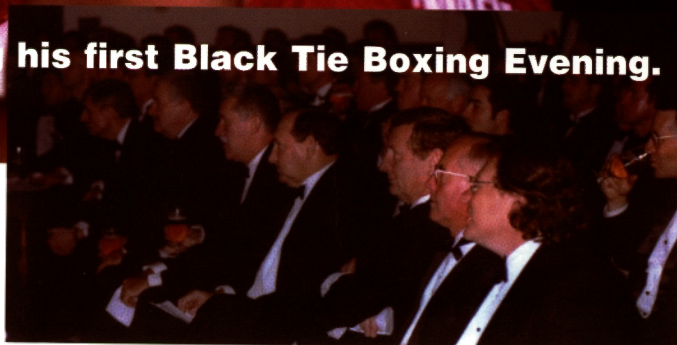
“best
night out
in years”

precise words of a member attending his first Black Tie Boxing Evening.

A club that was founded in 1858 would be expected to have some fine traditions. And indeed **tattersalls** does. In the racing industry, obviously, and in many other sports – snooker, athletics and swimming. More recently it has also become known for its exceptionally fine dining as it powers on as a social and cultural hub for the business and professional people of Sydney.

One of the regular events at **tattersalls** that combines centuries old sporting tradition with modern comforts is the Black Tie Boxing Evening. And yes, gentlemen, another one is coming up and you'll need to book soon. Ask any member who attends and you'll understand why these are always sell-out events.

The big night is Friday the 10th of May and on the night our chef presents a spectacular Gentlemen's



Menu with carefully matched wines served by our lovely hostesses.

The fighters for the 7 bouts (fully sanctioned by the ABA NSW Branch) will be organised by the PCYC who are also the main beneficiaries of proceeds of the evening.

Tickets go on sale on Tuesday 2nd of April and seats are strictly limited, so it will be first come first served. Members can request as many seats as they like. Seats will be confirmed a month before the night and costs will be debited to the Members House Account. There will be no cancellation after confirmation in accordance with the new regulations outlined on Page 4.



Members Wine List
page 3



Cole Classic
page 5



In The Kitchen
page 10

from the chairman



Like most of us, I suppose, I have many friends and business acquaintances who are members of the other main city clubs, the Australian Club, the Union Club, the University and Schools Club and the Royal Automobile Club.

Former business partners and clients of mine have served on the committees of these clubs and, from time to time, I have been invited to join them.

I have been told that they have excellent dining facilities with great views of the Harbour (and they do), that their bars are great places for networking (which no doubt they are), or that they are more convenient to the CBD which nowadays is said to be north of King Street.

I have thought about all this and have decided that I do not regard my club simply as an extension of my business, nor as just an exclusive place to dine. It may well be both of these things occasionally, but coincidentally. My club is not as close to the CBD as the other fine clubs, but I have the compensation of a leisurely stroll each day through the most beautiful city in the world (and the lads in the Athletic Department tell me that I'm looking after my heart with the walk).

Tattersalls Club moved from its previous site in Pitt Street to Elizabeth Street in 1927. Other sites were considered including one in Phillip Street, but the members felt that a vacant site would allow them to build a club house which reflected the requirements of their members and which was large enough to accommodate the then novel and controversial idea of an indoor swimming pool.

There were also historical reasons for the choice. The first Australian racecourse and the first organised race meeting are said to have been in what is now Hyde Park and the club that must have been a predecessor of the current **tattersalls** Club apparently overlooked the entire course ... "the starting and winning posts stood at the top of Market Street. The course ran round by St James Church, thence past St Mary's Cathedral along College Street, turned the corner of Oxford Street and rounded Liverpool Street to come into the long straight of

Elizabeth Street to the winning post. The distance was one and a quarter miles ... the whole course can be seen from the windows of Tattersalls Club".

Sporting interests were always to the forefront in the minds of **tattersalls** members and the Club has been a mecca for sportsmen of all kinds. Cricket and golf as well as billiards and snooker were popular. And, of course, the new pool began a strong swimming tradition which continues today.

So, the members of **tattersalls** were clear minded and independent types, never willing to accept second best and prepared to take a risk to further their interests and the interests of others. Racing and sport were their common interests and the reason for them to come together. They were often the most successful businessmen of the day as well and they had a generous spirit in the main, since the records show that **tattersalls** was often a supporter of the city's charities and deserving young sportsman. For many years, no overseas sporting team would pass through Sydney without visiting the Club.

If I look back on my many years on various committees of **tattersalls**, there is no single thing that I regard as more important than the restoration in the Club of our sporting culture. Perhaps we needed to remind ourselves of our past and of the relevance to today's city life of a club that caters for the health and well-being of men who even still aspire to the company of sportsmen and the special environment that results from that.

Tattersalls was always a very different club from the rest and so it is today, thank heavens. I shall continue to enjoy my occasional visits to my friends' clubs and I shall also take in the noise and excitement of the new genre of city bars and cafes. But for as long and as often as I can, I shall happily walk the extra block or so to Elizabeth Street.

Russell Debney



secretary's report

The recent upgrade of the steam room and sauna, although an inconvenience to members while in progress, will result in a much better service. It is unfortunate that these repairs were necessary during operating hours, however the problems were not evident during our Christmas closedown. In an effort to provide the best possible facilities within the Athletic Department, further upgrading will take place during the next five weeks.

Due to increased usage of the Athletic Department, a new and expanded timetable of classes will be introduced in early March. This will provide members with greater opportunities to participate in classes, offering times not previously offered. It is planned that the new timetable will alleviate pressure on facilities during the 1pm to 1.30pm weekday timeslot.

MEMBERS' WINE LIST.

Many of our members have interests in small wineries, which produce quality wines. During March it is planned to develop a list from Members' Wineries for inclusion on our Brasserie Wine List. I would appreciate any vigneron who is interested in having his wine included in this list to contact me during this month.

Tim Bowring

Secretary

STOP PRESS

Paula Castela has rejoined tattersalls as Membership Officer. Members will remember Paula's smiling face in the Club's office prior to her leaving two years ago. This new dedicated position will provide Members with a direct contact point for all membership enquiries. A Membership Hot Line will be installed soon to expedite Members' requirements. We wish Paula all the best in her new position.

tattersalls into the year 2002

calendar of events

2002

m a r c h

15th Irish Beer Tasting
19th Golden Slipper Calcutta

a p r i l

15th US Masters Golf Final
American Breakfast
18th Rugby Lunch

m a y

2nd Snooker Calcutta
10th Black Tie Boxing

VALE MALCOLM STENING

Malcolm Stening, who died at the tragically young age of 58, was nothing if not a great club man. He was for many years a committeeman of Tattersall's Club and was a member of David Dransfield's committee at the time of the decision to redevelop the clubhouse in the late '80s.

I can still today hear Malcolm's deep, booming, cultured tones as he spoke often and loudly about club issues at members' and committee meetings. Malcolm held strong and often passionate views about most everything and he was never shy about speaking up. In doing so, he was always clear-minded, fair and never swayed by political considerations. No wonder he was held in such high regard by his fellow members who shared his conversation at the end of the bar, or who joined Malcolm for a refreshing dip in the pool.

It is no secret that Malcolm fell on hard times in the last few years of his short life. His failing health followed a difficult period when Malcolm's business interests soured. He found this time hard to come to terms with perhaps because of the stunning success that he had enjoyed before in what was a legendary publishing career. Many of his friends at Tattersall's Club would have wanted to lend a hand, but that, sadly, was not Malcolm's style and he preferred to go it alone.

To Malcolm's family and to his partner Robbie, who brought great happiness to Malcolm in the end, we extend our deepest sympathy on the loss of a good man and a true gentleman.

Russell Debney

tattersalls Founded 1858
 181 Elizabeth Street Sydney NSW 2000
 Telephone 02 9264 6111
 Facsimile 02 9267 8312
 Banqueting 02 9263 9204
 Athletic Dept. 02 9264 5624
Office Hours
 8.30 am - 5 pm **Monday to Friday**
Brasserie
 7 am - 3.30 pm **Monday, Tuesday & Friday**
 (bar meals available in the evening)
 7 am - 9.30 pm **Wednesday & Thursday**
Bar and Billiard Room
 Noon - 9 pm **Monday to Wednesday**
 Noon - 10 pm **Thursday and Friday**
Athletic Department
 5.30 am - 9 pm **Monday to Friday**
 6 am - 6 pm **Saturday**
 Noon - 5 pm **Sunday**

CANCELLATION POLICY FOR INHOUSE FUNCTIONS

The policy when booking inhouse functions (Such as The Black Tie Boxing) is as follows:

When a booking is made, a confirmation advice will be faxed/emailed four weeks prior to the event. Once confirmation is received, then the booking cannot be cancelled, and the appropriate charges will be debited to the Member's House Account.

The introduction of this policy is a result of some Members booking for functions and cancelling on the day of the function, resulting in a loss due to food being purchased. Also in the case of the Black Tie Boxing where a waiting list is often in operation, late cancellation does not allow sufficient time for other interested Members to rearrange schedules to attend.

PROPOSED NEW MEMBERS

The following persons have been proposed for Membership

NAME	OCCUPATION	PROPOSER	SECONDER
BOYD-BOLAND Robert	Solicitor	P Cronin	B McKenzie-Craig
CATTANA Jonathon	National Business Developer	C Home	R Sanders
CONNORS Clarence	Horse Trainer	R Sanders	R Glover
CORK Stuart	Solicitor	P Thiel	G White
DILLON Benjamin	Banker	R McMahon	C Linder
DRAPAC Goran	CEO	M Anderson	P Anderson
FARRELL Bill	Company Partner	D Robertson	N Seitz
HAGBATH Kent	Managing Director	R Glover	R Sanders
KITE Peter	Barrister	B Cross	C Simpson
McCOY Cameron	Student	P McCoy	H Miller
McLACHLAN Andrew	Director	M Dougherty	F Archibald
MANN Duncan	General Manager	I Mann	R Austin
MOUFARRIGE Marcus	Commerce	A Moufarrige	R Sanders
MOUFARRIGE Taime	Lawyer	A Moufarrige	R Sanders
NEWCOMBE Geoffrey	Director of School Governance	R Sanders	R Glover
REICHELTL Phillip	Development Co-ordinator	S Harrod	P Adams
SCHALL Richard	MGR	A Coorey	J Crawford
SPENCER Anthony	Barrister	C Newlinds	J Duncan
WALKER Alexander	Managing Director	J Grant	E Chant
WOODFORDE Timothy	Solicitor	S Forsyth	A Latimer
YABL Bruce	Solicitor	S Raward	R Sanders
YOUNG Christopher	Surgeon	A Korda	R Sanders

DECEASED MEMBERS

John Ferris Kirkpatrick Member for 43 years Malcolm Stening (see page 3 for details)



sports

The Swimming Club commenced competition on 5 February and the Presentation Dinner was held on 22 February. The evening was a great success and the "Parra Gnome" was reunited with his tearful owner. His colours had not changed. New swimmers Cosmos, Jai and Rob were welcomed. It all looks good for a great 2002.

COLE CLASSIC TEAM RESULTS

AGE 150-199

NOLAN/A HUXTABLE/DUNCAN/ISRAEL

Place	Team	Time
1	Master Brewers	01:31:47
2	tattersalls No 5	02:10:12
3	Randwick & Coogee Ass	02:17:41
4	Ashfield Pacemakers	02:23:16
5	The Piranhas	02:29:33

AGE 100-149

STORRY/THIEL/CLYNE/MACLEOD

Place	Team	Time
1	Spott-Dog Champions	01:32:54
2	tattersalls No 1	01:34:08
3	Kambala Swim School	01:56:28

COLE CLASSIC RESULTS

TATTERSALLS MEMBERS RESULTS

Name	Overall Place	Age Group Place	Age Group	Time
Simon Storry	18	3	30-34	22:44.8
Calum MacLeod	22	6	20-24	23:14.4
Peter Thiel	34	7	30-34	23:44.9
Shaun Clyne	54	9	30-34	24:22.1
Michael Ward	99	10	25-29	25:26.7
Robert Farrell	121	3	45-49	26:05.7
David Huxtable	171	17	25-29	27:08.2
Mark Preston	226	12	45-49	28:03.2
Bruce Baird	307	5	55-59	29:08.3
Luke Morgan	335	44	40-44	29:34.6
Cameron Duncan	360	46	35-39	29:52.5
Bruce Fallshaw	460	19	50-54	31:02.4
Nicholas Lefevbre	467	82	30-34	31:07.4
Mark Roufeil	502	75	35-39	31:29.5
Alan Israel	518	67	40-44	31:42.0
Ken Glover	576	22	50-54	32:14.7
Patrick Bryant	605	76	40-44	32:30.3
Gary Wilson	621	28	50-54	32:41.3
Tom Nolan	631	37	45-49	32:46.4
Arthur Huxtable	823	37	50-54	35:49.4
Brendan Maher	971	111	40-44	38:11.3

Results for February were as follows:

50m Monthly Point Score

GIBSON Peter	37
(Winner of tattersalls \$100.00 Gift Voucher)	
BRYANT Pat	29
BUCKLEY Rob	28
POWTER Anthony	26
THIEL Peter	22
MCCOSKER John	21
ROBINSON Charlie	21
TOROK Andrew	21
WILSON Gary	21

100m Monthly Point Score

POWTER Anthony	28
(Winner of Clock Hotel \$100.00 Dining Voucher)	
PUERTOLAS Cesar	25
GREAVES John	23
THIEL Peter	23
JAGGER Richard	19
TOROK Andrew	16
BRYANT Pat	15
DEBNEY Bill	15
WILSON Gary	15

around the



Bondi Cole Classic
before the swim

Bondi to Bronte team



Simon Flanders Head Chef



Brad McGee



e club

A wealth of Cricketing talent



Alan Border, Simon Flanders and Ian Botham



NSWIS/FDJ Cycling squad announced at tattersalls



Snooker Club Sub Committee

sports

Jeans Story Mark II

This bloke came in one day when the Vince Maloney Sale was about fifty years ago, some trousers called Jeans escaped from Saturday afternoon cowboy matinees and somehow made callow youths with bony legs and small bums look sexy. These jeans fitted like wallpaper: Up-market citizens first jeered at them, then wore them, or tried to, and sometimes looked funny.

This month's news is that a crash hot Italian trouser specialist called Zanella has sent Vince M. the ultimate serious jeans for adults. They are not cheap, have nothing to do with Designers, but incredibly they seem to fit and look great on almost all impressively-sized citizens.

The accommodating Italian cut must be a fluke... as well as showing off Zanella's high skills.

A really good, deep-toned jeans cloth; the serious jeans styling; no boring copper rivets, no daggy leather labels. \$300. And they're walking out.



Vince Maloney On-The-Park
Next door to Tattersall's ph. 9264 8837

Welcome Back Anthony!

Anthony Chauvet, also known as 'Mr Charisma' is back in the Athletic Department after a few years' absence. While Anthony was away from **tattersalls** he travelled to faraway exotic places like Uruguay, Buenos Aires and the south of Spain for a two year period working as a fitness instructor and as bodyguard for rich older ladies. Anthony is keen to assist Members with any health and fitness queries they may have.

Under 30's Membership drive proves a Plus for Athletic Department.

The Under 30's member recruitment initiative has seen an increase in the number of younger Members getting their bodies into the Athletics Department on a daily basis. New faces include Hamish Kelly, David Kent, Rob Buckley, Lachlan Benson, James Hetherington, Charlie Wells, Anthony Powter, Toby Tancred, William Vasilli, Kevin Smart and Callum McLeod ... they have all settled in well.

The Athletics Department staff welcomes these men and hope they continue to enjoy their training in 2002 and beyond at **tattersalls**.

St. Michaels golf club

A disappointingly small field took to the picturesque St. Michaels Golf Course on Wednesday 20th of Feb.

However those that did make the effort to support Tatts Golf were again rewarded with a sparkling day with a light breeze that did come in a little stronger later in the day to test the best golfers.

Thanks to all those who played and a special thanks to those that went to the effort to bring along a few guests to help swell the numbers.

Individual honours went to Nick Lefebvre who has played his last game of golf of a generous handicap of 27!!!

Nick, watch out for the handicapper! Obviously not having JT sledging you all the way around helped your golf.

There were no reports of a major choke this time around. Tim, all is forgiven, please come back, we need you!

Other Tatts member who did well include Michael (Keg) McCormack who played without his partner, Pete Starr, who arrived at about the 7th hole, but still managed 2nd place in the 4 ball, and Ron Foord who won the longest drive from some very big hitters. (Just what steroids are you on Ron?)

Winners 4Ball

David Dunworth & Bob Cooper - 42 points

Runners up - Michael McCormack & Peter Starr - 40 points

Individual Winner

Nick Lefebvre - 37 points (Nick, you have to be kidding with that handicap)

Runner up - Jeff Talbot - 35 points

Longest Drive

Ron Foord

Nearest the Pin

David Duworth

The Bradman

Kent Harrison (Kent, thanks for the shirts)

Have not yet secured a date for our next game but working on late April at The Coast Golf Club or Kogarah Golf Club. Both courses are very good tight layouts which will not break the bank. Don't forget....swing fast and lift your head!



travel

EUROPE- TOP VALUE FOR EUROPEAN FARES

A trip to Europe offers a plethora of airline choices amongst Asian and European carriers including Qantas, the latter with at least six economy fares in any one season. Multiply this by four for each season and you have 24 economy fares to Europe just for Qantas. The cheapest fares use the major European capitals-London, Frankfurt, Paris and Rome as gateways. What many travellers do not realise is that travel via these hubs can be maximised, as some fares permit two extra flights from the Europe entry point. For instance London /Shannon return or about \$240 above the base levels to more distant cities such as Zagreb or Malta.

Wading through the labyrinth of fares is confusing to say the least especially, taking the Asian carriers into account. Singapore Airlines offers fares combining two gateways say a routing Sydney/Istanbul/London /Sydney (using BA) - a non-star partner or points from the hub with Lufthansa.

When two flights in Europe are not enough airpasses come into play. Based on miles flown, fares start from Aud \$100 (one world) or US 60 (star) for 249 miles. Some airlines offer bargain Europe fares - Swissair from \$180 per Europe sector.

The best advice we can give is to give all the stops that you want to the travel adviser and then wait for the options!!!. Try this via the internet and good luck. We have not seen laterally thinking computers yet.

Barbara Whitten

GOOD VALUE SPECIAL AIRFARES FOR TATTERSALLS MEMBERS

- ✈ Qantas Airways Business class to London return: From **\$6500.00**
- ✈ Qantas Airways Business class to Frankfurt/Paris: From **\$6200.00**
- ✈ Round world United/Singapore business class **\$6550.00**
- ✈ Qantas Airways Business class to Los Angeles : From **\$6750.00**
- ✈ Qantas & Swissair "Early Bird Special" in Business class to Europe via Hong Kong, Manila, Singapore, Bangkok and Zurich for **\$4700**

Ticket by 31 March for travel to 31 December.

- ✈ Qantas/Air Lingus economy to Dublin via Paris/Frankfurt April-May **\$1995.**

*** Taxes are not included in the above prices ***

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LADIES NIGHT

**Every Wednesday Night During
March and April.**

Any Lady dining with a paying Member will receive their 2 course meal free, when the Member pays for 2 courses.

Bookings essential. Phone 9264 6111

In the Kitchen

We grill Simon Flanders, our Chef

How long have you been at tatts?

I've been here one and a half years. I was running the kitchen with Guillaume Brahim during the Olympics. Before that I was with him at Quay Restaurant for a year.

Where are you from originally?

From Fleet in Hampshire, just near Aldershot. I've been in Australia for 3 years. I came here for a trip 10 years ago and spent a year travelling right the way round the country. Enjoyed every aspect, it's such a friendly place, so that's what made me come back to set up home here. My wife Diane is also English ...and she has just presented me with our first child.

What started you cooking in the first place?

I enjoyed it right from school ...you know when you make your first peppermint creams and all that in your home economics classes. It was either that or being a long distance lorry driver. And I was never any good at mechanics, so catering won.

I spent most of my career in London, including 3 years at Harvey Nichols 5th Floor Restaurant.

Did you see Edina and Patsy (the girls from the "Absolutely Fabulous" TV series)?

Yes, couple of times. We had quite a few stars through the place.

Any favourite styles or dishes?

I like to try my hand at everything. Most of what I do comes from where I did my training. Modern European would best describe it. But with the number of chefs we have here, from different backgrounds, I try to get as many influences as I can from all over the globe.

What's the size of your set-up here?

We have six chefs and two porters. Joseph Moussa is my sous chef and Claire Latham my pastry chef. We have a great team in the kitchen. Functions are very important obviously. We had the Alan Border Kids Trek

TATTERSALLS BRASSERIE - Open for

Breakfast Monday - Friday

Lunch Monday - Friday

Dinner Wednesday & Thursday

(Open Monday, Tuesday and Friday for bookings of 12 or more with 3 days notice)

ENTREES

- ❶ MUSSELS steamed with a moudade of leeks and saffron
- ❷ OYSTERS NATURAL and a shallot vinegar
- ❸ SLOW BAKED SALMON with asparagus, peas, soft poached egg and mustard dressing
- ❹ SALAD of GRILLED GOAT CHEESE with baby beans, spiced beetroot & Remesco sauce
- ❺ LINGUINI OF HAWKSURRY CALAMARI and Ratatouille of vegetables

MAINS

- ❶ PAN FRIED FILLET OF DORY with a soup of cepes, leeks and kipfler potatoes
- ❷ SCOTCH FILLET topped with Café de Paris butter and French fries
- ❸ TATTERSALLS PIE beef, mushroom and red wine
- ❹ CHICKEN AND GORGONZOLA KIEV with a salad of watercress, bacon and capers
- ❺ SNAPPER served on a bed of pan-fried beets, leeks and mushrooms with meat juices
- ❻ ROAST VEAL CHOP served 'sur la plat' with glazed carrots and Boulangerie potato

WINE OF THE MONTH FOR MARCH - \$30.00

1999 Bimbadgen Estate Chardonnay

1999 Bimbadgen Estate Shiraz

Enter our draw to win a weekend for two at Bimbadgen Estate in the Hunter Valley

MENU CHANGES MONTHLY WITH DAILY SPECIALS AVAILABLE

For reservations phone 9264 6111

the other week, and that was a very successful event for 260 people. We have the Golden Slipper Calcutta - that's always a big one - and we have a Degustation Dinner coming up, at a date soon to be announced. Day by day, we do around 40 covers at lunch. For dinner we're only open Wednesday and Thursday and we'd love to build up numbers there.

Any message to tempt more members to your tables?

We pride ourselves on sourcing the best ingredients we can, and we charge members as little as we can get away with. For example when we're serving John Dory and French cepes we charge \$28; you go to any other place in Sydney they'll charge \$35 plus for that dish. Have you checked our wine list lately, there are some great bottles and great value there. We have wonderful new staff, there's not a thing they won't do to help. Special requests, anything you want, we'll do our best to get it to you. Give us a try, we'd love to surprise you.



expertonline

we question John Stewart,
· Negotiator · Sportsman · Enthusiast for life ·

What is your present occupation?

I'm a Licensed Commercial Agent, more commonly known as a Debt Collector. I built my own business here in Sydney, commencing in 1993 and then sold it to Collection House Limited in 1999. I'm still employed at CH, which was floated in October 2000 and became the number one IPO of 2000/2001 and the highest performing stock on the ASX for 2001 fiscal.

Debt Collection is no longer a game of harassment and stand-over tactics. Nowadays we're the new, clean as a whistle, user friendly, ACCC compliant, account dispute resolution engineers. Which kind of takes all the fun out of it. I now consider it one of the last bastions of the true art of negotiation

Where did you start out? Home? School? Uni?

My background is predominantly Scots and Irish. I was born in Perth, seventh generation West Aussie, my family still resides there. Perth and WA are both absolutely beautiful, but my Dad told me not to tell anybody, otherwise they'll all want to come. School? I attended 14 schools in 12 years. No, I didn't get kicked out of all of them, my father was in the Air Force, so we moved a lot. My favourite, the one I spent most time at was Guildford Grammar in Perth. I still have wonderful friends from the time I boarded there while Dad was stationed in Malaysia. Didn't attend uni, I remain a student in the University of Life. Learning is a never-ending source of absolute joy.

What do you like about living in Sydney? Dislike?

I moved to Sydney 14 years ago. It has taken me, personally and professionally, to all extremes. Sydney forces you to experience life, not watch it. I love the joint.

I try to explain Sydney to people who don't live here, and I think the best analogy is New York. Not that Sydney is like New York, she's way more than that. New Yorkers know they're New Yorkers first and Americans second. The rest of America knows it too. They all see New York as unique in their country with a character entirely her own. The rest of the world even seems to understand that it is a city that stands largely removed from the balance of the national psyche.



Well, here's a statistic. New York holds less than 10% of its nation's population, Sydney more than 20%. Sydney is more different from the country it's located in than any other major city in the world. If you come here to do business or to live here, you'd better understand that one or you are going to get burnt fingers.

Dislike? Mate, if you are born an Australian, you have already won life's lottery. If you live in Sydney ,, First Division.

Where and when have you travelled?

Having a father who was a 21-year Air Force man, I was born travelling. I always enjoy and make the most of where I am. I have travelled far and often enough to know that the last sentence in answer to the preceding question is more a statement of fact than opinion.

What are your favourite achievements, professional and personal?

Delivering my daughter, who had the impeccably good taste to be born on Sir Donald Bradman's 90th birthday. In my final season of competitive cricket, opening the bowling for my new club in Auckland and claiming my first ever hat trick. I've gotta tell you, when you have been so close so many times and it all boils down to one ball, it's the greatest feeling in the world when it comes off. Understand, the third batsman will not help you here, he is determined to stop you from getting the greatest of all bowlers' prizes. If you are not bang on the spot he won't even wave the bat at it. So you have to bowl him. So I did. I have seen a few middle stumps cartwheel out of the ground, but none was ever as sweet as that one.



I walked out of my first marriage (at her insistence) in 1992 with just a suitcase. The business we had built, everything we had done and acquired, I left with her. I started my debt collection firm within 6 months of that day ...my entire net worth was Negative \$10,000.

To cut a short story even shorter, that company effectively changed the face of debt recovery for the NSW WorkCover Authority and I had made my first million by 1998. The most satisfying aspect of building that business was not just the personal recovery, it was watching the fantastic growth of all the people working with me. Growing people will always be good for your soul, I recommend it.

Any sports or hobbies?

I've played a fair bit of Cricket; played, coached and umpired Aussie Rules. I played League in Queensland, Rugby at boarding school. I was goalie for the house soccer team and I have had 2 runs of Gaelic. I would have loved to play American football as well. No such thing as a bad code of football, but the one they play in heaven really fires me up. Singing and dancing at Carisbrooke last year when the Wallabies tore asunder 96 years of Rugby history was one of the greatest moments of my life. I love Sailing, Tennis, Snooker, Golf (although it hates me) and motor sport. The Formula 1 GP in Melbourne is the best four days you can spend with your clothes on. The best minute ever spent with my clothes on was a lap of Sandown in the co-pilot's seat of the Autopro V8 Commodore Supercar. I'm currently rebuilding a 1973 Porsche 914 to race in the 2003 Targa Tasmania. Standing at the helm of Nicorette, driving her through Sydney Harbour, has to be the closest thing to a race car on water I could possibly imagine.

Name three people, living or dead, you'd most like to have dinner with?

Winston Churchill, JFK and Douglas Adams (Author, Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy).

How do you use the club?

I love the feeling of the club, its traditions, its comradery. I enjoy my snooker in the most superb facilities imaginable, the dining room is now a pleasure to take

guests to. I found the Club a little daunting when I first joined, but the more I use it the more welcoming I find it. "tattersalls is a wonderful oasis of calm in a hectic cityscape".

Any words of wisdom?

Life itself is a sexually transmitted disease with a 100% mortality rate. You owe it to yourself to cram as much into the space between the two defining events as is humanly possible. Life is the most wonderful of gifts, that should be consumed with absolute passion on a daily basis.

Finally, how would you describe your personality?

I'll sum it up with a story. We had a man out from the States, Jim Paxton, very experienced in our business, great bloke, we got on really well. I took him to tattersalls for our first meeting so he could see where the US Olympic team was headquartered. Jim had heard a lot about me and was looking forward to our first meeting. Describing it to a friend next morning, I said "I don't think Jim was ready for me". My friend said, "John, nobody is ready for you and there is no way to get ready. It's like doing preparation work to receive a head butt, you can't! You're either ready or you get flattened". So I guess I'm a bit "in ya face", but hey, after all ...

I am a debt collector.

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